

United States Department of the Interior NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Grand Canyon National Park P.O. Box 129 Grand Canyon, Arizona 86023-0129

September 24, 2012

Dear Teacher,

Enclosed you will find a master copy of the Grand Canyon National Park Self-Guided activity for use with your class when you visit the park. Included is an answer sheet for your use. There are three sections to the activity, which can be completed in different locations. We strongly recommend that when conducting the activity your group be divided into smaller groups of no more than ten students, each with a chaperone. This will help your students glean more from the experience, and similarly a smaller group is easier to navigate and less conspicuous to other park visitors.

There are many possibilities with this activity. Each of the three sections is self-contained, therefore it is possible to do as many or as few as time allows. You may also have your class divide up and start in different places. Feel free to conduct the activity as you choose, but we have the following suggestions:

- If you plan to do all three sections, the most time efficient route would begin at Yavapai Geology Museum with Grand Canyon Geology (Section 1), and finish in historic Grand Canyon Village with People at Grand Canyon (Section 3). In this manner Grand Canyon Ecology (Section 2) can be completed while walking from Yavapai to the village.
- To do only the Geology section, go to Yavapai Geology Museum.
- If you only want to do the Ecology section, start at either Yavapai Geology Museum or Park Headquarters and walk the rim trail to Grand Canyon Village.
- To do just the People at Grand Canyon section, start at Verkamp's Visitor Center at the east end of the village.

A map is included with distances between points. If you choose to do all three sections, plan on approximately three to four hours (which includes one hour for the two-mile hike along the rim between Yavapai Geology Museum and Grand Canyon Village).

We hope this will be a positive and fun learning experience for your students. If you have any questions please call 928-638-7662.

Sincerely,

Andy Pearce Environmental Education Specialist Grand Canyon National Park